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09/446,425	12/20/1999	CHRISTOPH CAPELLARO	P99.2497	2302

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2135	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/446,425	CAPELLARO ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ponnoreay Pich	2135	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _09 June 2005_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _28-60_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) ~~Of the above~~ claim(s) _1-27_ is/are ~~withdrawn from consideration.~~ *Cancelled*

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _28-60_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 28-60 have been examined and are pending. Claims 1-27 were

previously cancelled.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can

be found in a prior Office action.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this

application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action

has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on

6/9/2005 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

Claims 28-30 were amended. New rejections will be made as necessary, see

below.

Response to Arguments

The main points of applicant's arguments filed on 6/9/2005 dealt with the Pfaff

reference not being an appropriate reference for use in the rejections of applicant's

claims and applicant believes that applicant is entitled to a refund of the RCE fees as

the previous examiner did not address applicant's arguments in a timely manner.

Applicant's arguments regarding the Pfaff reference are moot in light of new rejections

below. Note that the examiner is not admitting that Pfaff was improperly used in the

previous rejections; he merely believes the (combination of) references below are more appropriate especially in light of applicant's new amendments. As for applicant's argument that applicant should be refunded the RCE fees and the previous finality of office action be withdrawn as the previous examiner did not address applicant's arguments in a timely manner, the examiner respectfully disagrees.

On page 17, third paragraph, applicant stated that the paragraphs spanning pages 4-6 of the Advisory Action sent out on 5/27/2005 addresses the failure of the Response to Arguments section of the 2/9/2005 Final Rejection. The examiner notes that applicant's argument, filed 8/27/2004, that was directed towards subject matter which was not a result of new issues raised due to applicant's amendments were addressed on page 2, paragraph 3 in the previous examiner's Final Rejection sent out 2/9/2005. On pages 4-6 of the Advisory Action, the current examiner merely attempted to explain further what the current examiner believes the previous examiner's thoughts were as applicant still seemed unconvinced and raised the arguments again. Applicant's other arguments that were not addressed in the Response to Arguments section of the 2/9/2005 Final Rejection stemmed from new issues raised due to applicant's amendments. The rejection of these new issues counts as a proper response.

On page 18 of the applicant's arguments, applicant also argued for a refund of RCE fees as the previous examiner failed to respond to the arguments in the third paragraph on page 14 of the 8/27/2004 Amendment. The examiner notes that the third paragraph of page 14 starts out "As amended, independent claims ... recite...."

Applicant's arguments made in that paragraph were the result of amendments to the

claims. The examiner respectfully submits that the new rejections that the previous

examiner made in the 2/9/2005 Final Rejection is a proper response to applicant's

arguments as those arguments stemmed from new issues raised due to applicant's

amendments. Those responses were timely made and any additional responses by the

current examiner in the Advisory Action were merely to explain further the previous

examiner's new rejections as applicant did not believe the previous examiner's

rejections of the limitations were correct. As such, the examiner respectfully submits

that the finality of the previous office action was properly maintained and applicant is not

entitled to any refund of RCE fees. As the RCE fees have been paid, the examiner will

treat this case as if it was a new case and make any rejections he believes are most

appropriate for the set of claims without necessarily taking into consideration the

previous examiner's rejections. The examiner also notes Exhibit A submitted by the

applicant.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

1. The first sentence on page 2, paragraph 8 seems to be incorrectly worded—"i.e. a

   only that case...."

2. On page 5, paragraph 21, line 10, "tie" should probably be "twice".

   Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

Claim 32 is objected to because of the following informalities: In the last limitation of claim 32, applicant recites a second compute unit. The examiner believes applicant meant to recite a second computer unit. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 28, 35, 29, 30, 39, 42, 50, 40, 51, 41, 43, 45, and 52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wasilewski et al (US 5,870,470) in view of Valizadeh et al (US 5,678,006).

Claim 28:

Wasilewski discloses a method for encoding a digital message, the method comprising:

1. Encoding the digital message by a first application to form an encoded message via employment of an encoding format of a network protocol (col 6, lines 19-26 and col 7, lines 12-15).

2. Subjecting the encoded message to at least one cryptographic process to form a cryptographically processed message (col 6, lines 19-26 and col 7, lines 29-37).

3. Encoding the cryptographically processed message via employment of the encoding format of the network protocol (col 6, lines 19-26 and col 7, lines 51-54).

Wasilewski does not explicitly disclose the method for encoding a digital

message **on a computer**, the first application **executing on the computer**, and **a**

proxy agent application executing on the computer.

However, the examiner notes that it is obvious and common practice to have

encoding and cryptographic processing of digital messages done on a computer via

some sort of application executing on the computer. One of ordinary skill would be

motivated to do so as it is common practice in the art.

Further, Valizadeh discloses a proxy agent application executing on a computer

(col 3, lines 22-29). Note also that Valizadeh explicitly discloses an agent can be an

application (col 1, lines 56-59).

In light of the above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art

at the time the applicant's invention was made to have modified Wasilewski's invention

according to the limitations recited in claim 28. One of ordinary skill would have been

motivated to incorporate Valizadeh's teachings because he discloses that his teachings

can simplify the development and maintenance of a network node (col 2, lines 27-31).

Claim 35:

Wasilewski does not explicitly disclose wherein the network protocol is a simple

network management protocol version 1. However, Valizadeh discloses the network

protocol is a simple network management protocol version 1 (col 3, lines 16-18). One of

ordinary skill would be motivated to combine Wasilewski and Valizadeh's teachings for

the same reasons given in claim 28.

Claim 29:

Wasilewski discloses a method for decoding at a computer an encoded, cryptographically processed message that is present in an encoding format of a network protocol, the method comprising:

1. Decoding at the computer the encoded, cryptographically processed message according to the encoding format of the network protocol to form a decoded, cryptographically processed message (col 5, lines 34-38 and col 23, lines 1-5).

2. Subjecting the decoded, cryptographically processed message to a second cryptographic process inverse relative to at least one first cryptographic process, which previously encoded an original digital message, to forma n inverse cryptographically processed message (col 23, lines 9-23).

3. Decoding the inversely cryptographically processed message by another application executing on the computer according to the encoding format of the network protocol used in said decoding of the cryptographically processed message (col 23, lines 24-32).

Wasilewski does not explicitly disclose a proxy agent application executing on the computer. However, Valizadeh discloses a proxy agent application executing on a computer (col 3, lines 22-29). Note also that Valizadeh explicitly discloses an agent can be an application (col 1, lines 56-59).

In light of the above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicant's invention was made to have modified Wasilewski's invention according to the limitations recited in claim 29. One of ordinary skill would have been

motivated to incorporate Valizadeh's teachings because he discloses that his teachings

can simplify the development and maintenance of a network node (col 2, lines 27-31)

Claim 30:

Wasilewski discloses a method for encoding a digital message, for transmitting

the digital message from a first computer unit to a second computer unit and for

decoding the digital message, the method comprising:

1. Encoding the digital message, by a first application, to form an encoded message
   via employment of an encoding format of the network protocol (col 6, lines 19-26
   and col 7, lines 12-15).

2. Subjecting the encoded message to at least one first cryptographic process to
   form a cryptographically processed message (col 6, lines 19-26 and col 7, lines
   29-37).

3. Encoding the cryptographically processed message via employment of the
   encoding format of the network protocol used to produce the encoded message
   to form an encoded, cryptographically processed message (col 6, lines 19-26
   and col 7, lines 51-54).

4. Transmitting the encoded, cryptographically processed message from the first
   computer unit to the second computer unit (col 22, lines 62-65).

5. Decoding the encoded, cryptographically processed message, in the second
   computer unit, according to the encoding format of the network protocol to form a
   decoded, cryptographically processed message (col 5, lines 34-38 and col 23,
   lines 1-5).

6. Subjecting the decoded, cryptographically processed message to a second cryptographically process inverse relative to the at least one first cryptographically process to form an inversely cryptographically processed message (col 23, lines 9-23).

7. Decoding the inversely cryptographically processed message, by a second application in the second computer unit, into the digital message according to the encoding format of the network protocol (col 23, lines 24-32).

Wasilewski does not explicitly disclose the first application **in the first computer unit, a first proxy agent in the first computer unit**, the encoding is done **in the first computer unit**, and **a second proxy agent in the second computer unit**.

However, the examiner notes that it is obvious and common practice to have encoding and cryptographic processing of digital messages done on a computer via some sort of application executing on the computer. One of ordinary skill would be motivated to do so as it is common practice in the art.

Further, Valizadeh discloses a proxy agent application executing on a computer (col 3, lines 22-29). Note also that Valizadeh explicitly discloses an agent can be an application (col 1, lines 56-59).

In light of the above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicant's invention was made to have modified Wasilewski's invention according to the limitations recited in claim 30. One of ordinary skill would have been

motivated to incorporate Valizadeh's teachings because he discloses that his teachings

can simplify the development and maintenance of a network node (col 2, lines 27-31).

Claim 39:

Wasilewski discloses an apparatus for encoding a digital message, the apparatus

comprising:

1. Means for encoding the digital message via employment of an encoding format
   of a network protocol by an application to form an encoded message (col 6, lines
   19-26 and col 7, lines 12-15).

2. Means for cryptographically processing the encoded message to form a
   cryptographically processed message (col 6, lines 19-26 and col 7, lines 29-37).

3. Means for encoding the cryptographically processed message via employment of
   the encoding format of the network protocol used to produce the encoded
   message (col 6, lines 19-26 and col 7, lines 51-54).

Wasilewski does not disclose a proxy agent. However, Valizadeh discloses a

proxy agent application executing on a computer (col 3, lines 22-29). Note also that

Valizadeh explicitly discloses an agent can be an application (col 1, lines 56-59).

In light of the above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art

at the time the applicant's invention was made to have modified Wasilewski's invention

according to the limitations recited in claim 39. One of ordinary skill would have been

motivated to incorporate Valizadeh's teachings because he discloses that his teachings

can simplify the development and maintenance of a network node (col 2, lines 27-31).

Claim 42:

Wasilewski does not explicitly disclose wherein the means for encoding the digital message is further provided as the means for encoding the cryptographically processed message. However, Wasilewski discloses that the second network protocol used to encrypt the message the second time may be the same as the first network protocol (col 6, lines 32-34). Reusing an encoding means was not only known at the time the applicant's invention was made, it was also obvious. In light of this, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified Wasilewski and Valizadeh's combination invention according to the limitation recited in claim 42. One of ordinary skill would have been motivated to do so as component or means reuse results in a less costly system.

Claim 50:

Wasilewski does not explicitly disclose wherein the network protocol is a simple network management protocol version 1. However, this limitation is obvious to the combination invention of Wasilewski and Valizadeh as Valizadeh discloses the network protocol is a simple network management protocol version 1 (col 3, lines 16-18).

Claim 40:

Claim 40 recites limitations substantially similar to claim 29 and is rejected for the same reasons. The difference is that Claim 40 recites an apparatus with means for implementing the method of claim 29. Claim 40 also recites means for receiving the encoded, cryptographically processed message from a first computer unit. Wasilewski

does not explicitly disclose this limitation, however, such means must exist or the second computer could not have received the message to process.

Claim 44:

Wasilewski discloses wherein the means for decoding the encoded, cryptographically processed message is further provided as the means for decoding the inversely cryptographically processed message (col 23, lines 1-32).

Claim 51:

Wasilewski does not explicitly disclose wherein the network protocol is a simple network management protocol version 1. However, this limitation is obvious to the combination invention of Wasilewski and Valizadeh as Valizadeh discloses the network protocol is a simple network management protocol version 1 (col 3, lines 16-18).

Claim 41:

Claim 41 recites an apparatus with a first computer unit with means recited in claim 39 and a second computer unit with means recited in claim 40. As such, claim 41 is rejected for the same reasons given in claims 39 and 40. Note that claims 39 and 40 do not recite anything about means for sending the encoded cryptographically processed message from the first computer and receiving it at the second computer. However, these limitations must exist in Wasilewski and Valizadeh's combination invention as recited in claims 39 and 40 also otherwise the second computer could not have gotten the message to process.

Claim 43:

Claim 43 recites a limitation substantially similar to the one recited in claim 42

and is rejected for the same reasons.

Claim 45:

Claim 45 recites a limitation substantially similar to the one recited in claim 44

and is rejected for the same reasons.

Claim 52:

Wasilewski does not explicitly disclose wherein the network protocol is a simple

network management protocol version 1. However, this limitation is obvious to the

combination invention of Wasilewski and Valizadeh as Valizadeh discloses the network

protocol is a simple network management protocol version 1 (col 3, lines 16-18).

Claims 36 and 53-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Wasilewski et al (US 5,870,470) in view of Valizadeh et al (US 5,678,006) in further

view of Pfaff (DE 19548387, translated document PTO 03-4961).

Claim 36:

Wasilewski and Valizadeh do not explicitly disclose forming a set request in the

first computer unit upon encoding the cryptographically processed message and

transmitting the set request from the first computer unit to the second computer unit.

However, Pfaff discloses forming a set request in the first computer unit upon encoding

the cryptographically processed message and transmitting the set request from the first

computer unit to the second computer unit (Fig 4). It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Pfaff's teachings into the combination invention of

Wasilewski and Valizadeh according to the limitations recited in claim 36. One of

ordinary skill would have been motivated to do so as Pfaff discloses his teachings would

allow for the common use of a Standard Single-User Application environments that can

be located in different places (page 1, paragraph 2, last 3 lines).

Claim 53:

Wasilewski does not explicitly disclose wherein the network protocol is a simple

network management protocol version 1 and wherein the means for encoding the

cryptographically processed message is configured such that a set request is formed

upon the encoding of the cryptographically processed message. However, the network

protocol is a simple network management protocol version 1 is obvious to the

combination invention of Wasilewski and Valizadeh as Valizadeh discloses the network

protocol is a simple network management protocol version 1 (col 3, lines 16-18).

Further, Pfaff discloses wherein the means for encoding the cryptographically

processed message is configured such that a set request is formed upon the encoding

of the cryptographically processed message (Fig 4). Note that this limitation is also

obvious to the combination of Wasilewski and Valizadeh as the Valizadeh discloses

snmp is used (col 3, lines 16-18).

In light of the above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art

at the time the applicant's invention was made to have modified Wasilewski and

Valizadeh's combination invention according to the limitations recited in claim 53. One

of ordinary skill would have been motivated incorporate Pfaff's teachings for the same

reason given in claim 36.

Claim 54:

Claim 54 recites a limitation substantially similar to claim 53 and is rejected for

the same reasons.

Claims 31-24, 38, 46-49, and 56-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Wasilewski et al (US 5,870,470) in view of Valizadeh et al (US

5,678,006) in further view of Fujino et al (US 5,651,006).

Claim 31:

Wasilewski and Valizadeh do not explicitly disclose including a request for

implementing a prescribable action in the digital message, implementing the

prescribable action in the second computer unit to obtain a result of the prescribable

action, and sending the result of the prescribable action from the second computer unit

to the first computer unit in a reply message. However, the above limitations are met by

Fujino (col 6, lines 51-67; col 7, lines 1-12; Fig 2; and Fig 3). In light of this, it would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified the combination

invention of Wasilewski and Valizadeh according to the limitations recited in claim 31.

One of ordinary skill would have been motivated to incorporate Fujino's teachings as

Fujino discloses that his teachings would allow for managing a large-scale

communication network (col 2, lines 48-50).

Claim 32:

Wasilewski discloses:

1. Encoding a message to form an encoded message according to the encoding format of the network protocol to form an encoded message (col 6, lines 19-26 and col 7, lines 12-15).

2. Subjecting the encoded message to at least one cryptographic process to form a cryptographically processed message (col 6, lines 19-26 and col 7, lines 29-37).

3. Encoding the cryptographically processed message according to the encoding format of the network protocol to form an encoded, cryptographically processed message (col 6, lines 19-26 and col 7, lines 51-54).

4. Transmitting the encoded, cryptographically processed message (col 22, lines 62-65).

5. The encoded, cryptographically processed, and encoded message being a reply message, i.e. in response to a customer's request (col 3, line 42-col 4, line 11).

Wasilewski does not explicitly disclose:

1. Including a request for implementing a prescribable action in the digital message.

2. Implementing the prescribable action in the second computer unit to obtain a result of the prescribable action.

3. Forming a reply message which contains the result of the prescribable action in the second computer.

4. The encodings and cryptographic processing for the reply message being done in the second computer unit to for the reply message.

5. Storing the cryptographically processed reply message in the second computer unit.

6. The transmitted message being the reply message from the second computer unit to the first computer unit.

However, Fujino discloses including a request for implementing a prescribable action in the digital message; implementing the prescribable action in the second computer unit to obtain a result of the prescribable action; forming a reply message which contains the result of the prescribable action in the second computer unit (col 6, lines 51-67; col 7, lines 1-12; Fig 2; and Fig 3). One of ordinary skill would be motivated to incorporate Fujino's teachings for the same reasons given in claim 31.

.Further, two-way communications between two computers are well known. For a computer to send a reply message to another computer, it must first form and store that reply message. It is also well known for the replying second computer to use the same encoding/encryption protocol to reply to the first computer. One of ordinary skill would be motivated to use the same encoding and encryption protocol for a second computer to reply to a first computer as it is common practice to have two communicating computers use the same communication protocol and to have a uniform security policy between the two computers.

In light of the above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicant's invention was made to have modified Wasilewski and Valizadeh combination invention according to the limitations recited in claim 32. One of ordinary skill would be motivated to do so for the reasons given above.

Claim 33:

All of the limitations recited in claim 33 can be found in claim 32 also. As such, the same reasons used to reject claim 32 also applies to claim 33.

Claim 34:

Wasilewski does not disclose wherein the cryptographically processed reply message is stored in a management information base in the second computer unit. However, this limitation is obvious to the combination invention of Wasilewski, Valizadeh, and Fujino as Fujino discloses the limitation (col 3, lines 19-23).

Claim 38:

Wasilewski does not disclose transmitting as the prescribable action at least one of an information query and an information indication of the second computer unit. However, this limitation is obvious to the combination invention of Wasilewski, Valizadeh, and Fujino as Fujino meets this limitation (col 6, lines 51-67 and col 7, lines 1-12).

Claim 46:

Claim 46 recites limitations substantially similar to claim 31. The difference is that claim 46 is the means version of claim 31.

Claim 47:

Claim 47 recites limitations substantially similar to claim 32 and is rejected for the same reasons. Claim 47 is a means version of claim 32.

Claim 48:

All of the limitations for claim 48 can be found in claim 47 also. As such it is rejected for the same reasons.

Claim 49:

Wasilewski does not disclose wherein the cryptographically processed reply message is stored in a management information base in the second computer unit. However, this limitation is obvious to the combination invention of Wasilewski, Valizadeh, and Fujino as Fujino discloses the limitation (col 3, lines 19-23).

Claim 56:

Wasilewski does not explicitly disclose wherein the digital message contains at least one of an information query and an information particular of the second computer unit in a request for implementing a prescribable action. However, this limitation is met by Fujino (col 6, lines 51-67 and col 7, lines 1-12). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicant's invention was made to have modified Wasilewski and Valizadeh's combination invention according to the limitations recited in claim 56. One of ordinary skill would have been motivated to incorporate Fujino's teachings for the same reasons given in claim 31.

Claim 57:

Wasilewski discloses means for cryptographically processing the encoded message, means for encoding the cryptographically processed message and means for

sending the encoded cryptographically processed message (col 6, lines 19-26; col 7, lines 12-54; and col 22, lines 62-65). Wasilewski also discloses means for receiving the encode cryptographically processed message, means for decoding the encoded cryptographically processed message, and means for inversely cryptographically processing the decoded cryptographically processed message (col 5, lines 34-38 and col 23, lines 1-32). Note the means for receiving must exist or the second computer could not process the message.

Wasilewski does not disclose the means formed together as a first and second proxy agent. However, Valizadeh discloses a proxy agent application executing on a computer (col 3, lines 22-29). Note also that Valizadeh explicitly discloses an agent can be an application (col 1, lines 56-59).

In light of the above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the applicant's invention was made to have modified Wasilewski's invention according to the limitations recited in claim 57. One of ordinary skill would have been motivated to incorporate Valizadeh's teachings because he discloses that his teachings can simplify the development and maintenance of a network node (col 2, lines 27-31).

Claim 58:

Wasilewski discloses a communication system including an apparatus for encoding a digital message which comprises means for performing the steps of a method substantially similar to claim 28. Wasilewski does not explicitly disclose, but Fujino discloses the communication system having a manager of a communication network (Fig 1, item 50) and an intermediate manager of a communication network (Fig

1, items 10a-10c), the communication system employing the communication network

and offering further services that proceed beyond services offered by the

communication network to customers (col 2, lines 48-58). In light of this, it would have

been obvious to modify Wasilewski's invention according to the limitations recited in

claim 58. One of ordinary skill would have been motivated to incorporate Valizadeh and

Fujino's teachings for the same reasons given in claims 28 and 31.

Claim 59:

Wasilewski discloses a communication system including an apparatus for

decoding an encoded, cryptographically processed message that is received in an

encoding format of a network protocol from a computer unit which comprises means for

performing the steps of a method substantially similar to claim 29. Wasilewski does not

explicitly disclose, but Fujino discloses the communication system having a manager of

a communication network (Fig 1, item 50) and an intermediate manager of a

communication network (Fig 1, items 10a-10c), the communication system employing

the communication network and offering further services that proceed beyond services

offered by the communication network to customers (col 2, lines 48-58). In light of this,

it would have been obvious to modify Wasilewski's invention according to the limitations

recited in claim 59. One of ordinary skill would have been motivated to incorporate

Valizadeh and Fujino's teachings for the same reasons given in claims 29 and 31.

Claim 60:

Wasilewski discloses a communication system including an apparatus as recited

in claim 41. Wasilewski does not explicitly disclose, but Fujino discloses the

communication system having a manager of a communication network (Fig 1, item 50)

and an intermediate manager of a communication network (Fig 1, items 10a-10c), the

communication system employing the communication network and offering further

services that proceed beyond services offered by the communication network to

customers (col 2, lines 48-58). In light of this, it would have been obvious to modify

Wasilewski's invention according to the limitations recited in claim 60. One of ordinary

skill would have been motivated to incorporate Valizadeh and Fujino's teachings for the

same reasons given in claims 41 and 31

Claims 37 and 55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Wasilewski et al (US 5,870,470) in view of Valizadeh et al (US 5,678,006) in further.

view of Fujino et al (US 5,651,006) and Pfaff (DE 19548387, translated document PTO

03-4961).

Claim 37:

Wasilewski, Valizadeh, and Fujino do not explicitly disclose employing a get

request as the fetch message and forming a get response upon the encoding of the

requested, cryptographically processed reply message. However, this limitation is

obvious to the combination invention of Wasilewski, Valizadeh, and Fujino as the

combination invention uses SNMP (see Valizadeh: col 3, lines 22-29 and Fujino: col 3,

lines 24-27), which uses a get request and forms a get response. The limitation is also

disclosed by Pfaff (Fig 4). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to have

modified the combination invention of Wasilewski, Valizadeh, and Fujino according to

the limitation recited in claim 37 even if the limitation wasn't implicit to the combination

invention in light of Pfaff's teachings. One of ordinary skills would have been motivated

to incorporate Pfaff's teachings for the same reason given in claim 36.

Claim 55:

Wasilewski, Valizadeh, and Fujino do not explicitly disclose wherein the means

for forming and encoding the fetch message is configured such that a get request is

formed and wherein the means for encoding the cryptographically processed reply

message in the fetch message is configured such that a get response is formed.

However, this limitation is obvious to the combination invention of Wasilewski,

Valizadeh, and Fujino as the combination invention uses SNMP (see Valizadeh: col 3,

lines 22-29 and Fujino: col 3, lines 24-27), which uses a get request and forms a get

response. The limitation is also disclosed by Pfaff (Fig 4). It would have been obvious

to one of ordinary skill to have modified the combination invention of Wasilewski,

Valizadeh, and Fujino according to the limitation recited in claim 55 even if the limitation

wasn't implicit to the combination invention in light of Pfaff's teachings. One of ordinary

skills would have been motivated to incorporate Pfaff's teachings for the same reason
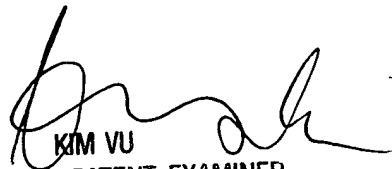
given in claim 36.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ponnoreay Pich whose telephone number is 571-272-7962. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-4:30pm Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on 571-272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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